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Eradication of poverty and other development issues

Report of the Second Committee*

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I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled:

"Eradication of poverty and other development issues:

"(a) Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027);

"(o) Industrial development cooperation

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 15th and 16th meetings on 17 October 2018 and took action on the item at its 23rd meeting, on 8 November. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, on 8, 9 and 10 October.[2] An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item is given in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/73/542, A/73/542/Add.1 and A/73/542/Add.2.

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.15 and A/C.2/73/SR.16.

[2] See A/C.2/73/SR.2, A/C.2/73/SR.3, A/C.2/73/SR.4, A/C.2/73/SR.5 and A/C.2/73/SR.6.

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Item 24
Eradication of poverty and other development issues

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization on the promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection, submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 71/240 (A/73/274 and A/73/274/Corr.1)

Letter dated 4 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the forty-second annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 27 September (A/73/417)

Letter dated 22 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Malawi to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 26 September 2018 (A/73/455)

Item 24 (a)
Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) (A/73/298)

Item 24 (b)
Industrial development cooperation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 71/242 (A/73/121)

4. At the 15th meeting, on 17 October, introductory statements were made by the Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (a)); the Deputy Representative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (under sub-item (b)); and the Deputy Special Representative of the World Tourism Organization Liaison Office to the United Nations (under agenda item 24).

5. At the same meeting, the representative of the Division for Inclusive Social Development responded to the comment made and question posed by the representative of Nigeria.

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.[3]

7. At the 27th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee.[4]

8. At the 28th meeting, on 3 December, statements were made by the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire and the United States of America.[5]

[3] See A/C.2/73/SR.23.
[4] See A/C.2/73/SR.27.
[5] See A/C.2/73/SR.28.

II. Consideration of draft proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.18 and A/C.2/73/L.18/Rev.1

9. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/73/L.18).

10. At its 26th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/73/L.18/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.18.

11. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement on the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.18/Rev.1.

12. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, made a statement.

13. Also at the 26th meeting, Azerbaijan joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.18/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 121 to 49, with 2 abstentions (see para. 21, resolution I). The vote was as follows:[6]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco,

[6] The delegation of Côte d'Ivoire subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Georgia, Turkey

15. Also at the same meeting, before the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union, Albania, Australia, Canada, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Norway, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Ukraine) and the United States of America.

16. Also at the 26th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of China.

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.20/Rev.1

17. At the 24th meeting, on 21 November, the representative of Morocco, introduced the revised draft resolution entitled "Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection", on behalf of Austria, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czechia, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malawi, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, the Niger, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam and Zambia.

18. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.20/Rev.1, had no programme budget implications.

19. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee announced that Andorra, Australia, Bahrain, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Gambia, Guatemala, Iceland, Latvia, Malta, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Sweden, Ukraine, Uruguay and Vanuatu had joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution. Subsequently, Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Belgium, Botswana, Cabo Verde, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Liberia, Lithuania, Maldives, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), the Netherlands, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone and Togo, also joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

20. Also at its 24th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.20/Rev.1 (see para. 21, resolution II).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

21. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[3]

Recalling its resolution 72/233 of 20 December 2017, in which it considered that the theme of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) should be "Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty", and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

Noting with appreciation the aspirations, embedded in Agenda 2063 of the African Union, to lift huge sections of the population out of poverty, improve incomes and catalyse economic and social transformation, and recognizing the importance of the international community to help African countries to achieve such goals, especially in the rural areas of the African continent,

[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[3] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recalling its declaration, in resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, of 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty,

Noting that, while considerable progress has been made over the past decade across all areas of development, the pace of progress observed in recent years is insufficient and uneven to fully meet the Sustainable Development Goals and targets by 2030, especially in the area of rural poverty eradication,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly in Africa, in the least developed countries, in small island developing States and in some middle-income countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, including full, productive employment and decent work for all, with a view to reducing inequalities within and among countries,

Recognizing that poverty is a serious impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including those living in rural areas, and that the feminization of poverty persists, emphasizing that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty, and stressing the importance of support for countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

Emphasizing that the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development depends crucially on the transformation of rural areas, where most of the poor and hungry live,

Welcoming the proclamation of 2019–2028 as the United Nations Decade of Family Farming, to raise the profile of the role of family farming[4] in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing the interlinkages and integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, and reiterating that the eradication of rural poverty and hunger is crucial for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and that rural development should be pursued through an integrated approach which encompasses economic, social and environmental dimensions, takes into account a gender perspective and consists of mutually reinforcing policies and programmes, and which should be balanced, targeted, situation specific, locally owned, include local synergies and initiatives and be responsive to the needs of rural populations,

Recalling that nearly 80 per cent of the extreme poor live in rural areas and work in agriculture, and that devoting resources to the development of rural areas and sustainable agriculture and supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, is key to ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by, inter alia, improving the welfare of farmers,

Expressing its concern that the extreme poor have limited access to productive resources, basic health, education and social protection services, basic infrastructure such as roads, water and electricity, and off-farm employment opportunities, and are susceptible to the impacts of natural disasters, especially weather-related hazards,

[4] Resolution 72/239.

including the El Niño phenomenon, and the adverse effects of climate change, and that rural women and girls fare far worse on most development indicators,

Emphasizing the importance of enhancing global support for national work on rural development policies and strategies,

1. *Reaffirms* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, for all people everywhere, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, as well as an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[5] of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[6] is an integral part, supporting and complementing it;

2. *Welcomes* the remarkable progress made since 1990, which has lifted over 1.1 billion people out of extreme poverty, but also expresses its deep concern that the progress in reducing poverty remains uneven, with 1.46 billion people still living in multidimensional poverty, and that this number continues to be significant and unacceptably high, whereas the levels of inequality in income, wealth and opportunities remain high or are increasing in a number of countries, and the non-income dimensions of poverty and deprivation, such as access to quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of promoting socioeconomic development in rural areas as an effective strategy at the global level for the eradication of poverty, including extreme poverty, and therefore underlines the importance of shaping a rural poverty eradication pattern with the concerted efforts of the whole of society to promote socioeconomic development in rural areas;

4. *Also recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, and indigenous women and women in local communities, and their traditional knowledge in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty;

5. *Stresses* the importance of taking targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, by formulating rural development strategies with clear poverty eradication goals, strengthening national statistical capacity and monitoring systems and implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of employment for pro-poor growth in rural areas, and encourages the United Nations system and development partners to assist countries, upon their request, in mainstreaming employment into investment policy and poverty reduction strategies, including those focused on rural area development, and fostering rapid agricultural productivity growth, especially in developing countries, by increasing investment in agricultural and related rural off-farm activities;

7. *Also recognizes* the need to design, implement and pursue gender-responsive economic and social policies aimed at, inter alia, eradicating poverty, including in rural areas, and combating the feminization of poverty, ensuring the full and equal participation of rural women in the development, implementation and follow-up of development policies and programmes and poverty eradication strategies, supporting increased rural employment and decent work, and promoting the participation of women at all levels and sectors of the rural economy and in

[5] Resolution 70/1.

[6] Resolution 69/313, annex.

diverse on-farm and off-farm economic activities, including sustainable agricultural and fisheries production;

8. *Emphasizes* that globally, 2 billion people, primarily in rural areas in developing countries, do not have access to formal financial services, and encourages further efforts of international community to offer affordable ways to access finance for the financially excluded in rural areas;

9. *Also emphasizes* the need to increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, especially in roads, water, sanitation and electricity;

10. *Expresses its commitment* to raising public awareness to promote the eradication of poverty and extreme poverty in all countries, to mobilizing the enthusiasm and creativity of all stakeholders, especially the rural residents living in extreme poverty, to fight against poverty, to promoting their active participation in the design and implementation of programmes and policies which affect them, and to providing quality education for the rural poor, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

11. *Stresses* the need to enhance and expand access by developing countries to appropriate technologies that are pro-poor and raise productivity, and underlines the need for measures to increase investment in agriculture, including modern technologies, as well as in natural resources management and capacity-building of the developing countries;

12. *Also stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty also hinge on the ability and readiness of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance commitments and use official development assistance effectively, and facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries, on mutually agreed terms, and further stresses that the resolution of unsustainable debt situations is critical for heavily indebted poor countries, while remittances have become a significant source of income and finance for receiving economies and their contribution to the achievement of sustainable development;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the diverse needs of and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing many middle-income countries, and therefore requests the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that these diverse and specific development needs are appropriately considered and addressed, in a tailored fashion, in their relevant strategies and policies, with a view to promoting a coherent and comprehensive approach towards individual countries;

14. *Realizes* that bridging the digital divide will require strong commitment by all relevant stakeholders at the national and international levels, and encourages efforts by all relevant stakeholders, especially United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in the spirit of win-win cooperation, to assist developing countries in overcoming the digital divide and promoting the use of information and communication technologies to foster economic and social development, particularly in rural areas, with the aim of building a shared future for humankind;

15. *Recognizes* the devastating impact of diseases on societies, and calls for measures by relevant United Nations bodies, in accordance with their respective mandates, and other stakeholders to make good use of their experience and advantages to further help developing countries with the aim of improving rural

development planning, including poverty eradication and multisectoral development activities covering economic and social aspects, including the gender perspective;

16. *Reiterates* the urgent need to accelerate the pace of rural poverty eradication, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution in order to identify the gaps and challenges faced in rural poverty eradication, especially in developing countries;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", a sub-item entitled "Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

Draft resolution II
Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling its resolution 71/240 of 21 December 2016, entitled "Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection",

Recalling also its resolutions 70/193 of 22 December 2015, entitled "International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017", 70/200 of 22 December 2015, entitled "Global Code of Ethics for Tourism", and 72/214 of 20 December 2017, entitled "Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America",

Reaffirming its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018, and welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to better position United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[2] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the latter of which, inter alia, highlighted the need to promote and integrate disaster risk management approaches throughout the tourism industry, given the often heavy reliance on tourism as a key economic driver,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[3] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[4] that have not yet done so to deposit their

[1] Resolution 60/1.
[2] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.
[3] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[5]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[6] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[7] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[8] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[9] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[10] the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[11] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[12] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[13] the report of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[14] the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway",[15] and the outcome document of the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[16]

Stressing that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing its economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels,

Recognizing that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, is a cross-cutting activity that can contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, including by fostering economic growth, alleviating poverty, creating full and productive employment and decent work for all, accelerating the change to more sustainable consumption and production patterns and promoting the sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources, promoting local culture, improving the quality of life and the economic empowerment of women and young people and promoting rural development and better living conditions for rural populations,

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[5] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[6] Resolution 55/2.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[9] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[10] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[11] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[12] Resolution 65/1.

[13] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[14] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35.

[15] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[16] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

Welcoming the efforts of the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to promote ecotourism and sustainable tourism worldwide,

Recognizing that sustainable consumption and production in tourism is aimed at increasing net welfare gains from economic activities by improving resource use and reducing ecosystem degradation and pollution along the entire tourism value chain, and that a systemic approach and cooperation among actors operating along the value chain, from tourism service providers, to adjacent communities, to tourists, can ensure the sustainability of the sector,

Recalling the adoption of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012,[17] welcoming the launching of the sustainable tourism programme of the Framework, and encouraging further implementation through capacity-building projects and initiatives to support sustainable tourism,

Recalling also the commitment contained in the Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being, adopted at the high-level segment of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Cancun, Mexico, on 2 and 3 December 2016, in which tourism is recognized as an enabling agent of change that can contribute directly to the conservation of the sensitive areas and habitats through a variety of activities and by raising awareness of the importance of biodiversity,[18]

Noting the initiatives launched and the events organized at the subregional, regional and international levels in the field of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and sustainable development,

Welcoming the adoption of the first African Charter for Sustainable and Responsible Tourism at the meeting of African ministers of tourism held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 November 2016 on the sidelines of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which outlines the way forward for the application of the principles of sustainability and accountability in the tourism sector in Africa,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;[19]

2. *Recognizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, represents, in many countries, an important driver of sustainable economic growth and decent job creation for all, that it can have a positive impact on income generation and education, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status, and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger, and that it can contribute directly to achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Also recognizes* the potential of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, to eradicate poverty by improving individual livelihoods in local communities and to generate resources for community development projects;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to optimize the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits stemming from sustainable tourism, including ecotourism

[17] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

[18] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/24.

[19] A/73/274 and A/73/274/Corr.1.

activities, in all countries, including African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries;

5. *Also emphasizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, can contribute to sustainable development, in particular to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources, and can improve the well-being of indigenous peoples and local communities;

6. *Recognizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, can improve the well-being of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and young people, and can create significant opportunities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and/or the protection of natural areas by encouraging indigenous peoples and local communities in host countries and tourists alike to preserve and respect the natural and cultural heritage;

7. *Notes* that the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization, in his report, invites Member States, international agencies and other relevant organizations to mainstream biodiversity conservation in the tourism sector and in climate change plans and strategies, intertwining economic, social and cultural elements with climate change adaptation approaches and the preservation of relevant ecosystem services;

8. *Encourages* all stakeholders to support, as appropriate, the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in sustainable tourism, including women and young people in all tourism operations, including ecotourism activities, in the light of their expertise and knowledge;

9. *Underlines*, in this regard, the importance of establishing, at the national level, where necessary, appropriate policies, guidelines, institutions and regulations, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, for promoting and supporting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and minimizing any potential negative impact;

10. *Invites* Member States to enhance institutional coherence policy that supports funding mechanisms and initiatives for poverty eradication projects, including initiatives from community-based organizations and small private sector entities;

11. *Invites* Governments, international organizations, other relevant institutions and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to encourage and support best practices in relation to the implementation of relevant policies, guidelines and regulations in sustainable tourism, including the ecotourism sector, and to implement and disseminate existing guidelines;

12. *Encourages* Member States to use sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a tool to foster sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and financial inclusion and enable the formalization of the informal sector, the promotion of domestic resource mobilization and environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger, including the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources and the promotion of investment and entrepreneurship in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in accordance with their national development policies and legislation, which may include promoting the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, promoting cooperatives and facilitating access to financing through inclusive financial services, including microcredit initiatives for the poor, women and young people, indigenous peoples, older persons, persons with disabilities and local communities in all areas, including rural areas;

13. *Encourages* the development of tourism infrastructure and the promotion of tourism diversification, including through public-private partnerships, as a way to foster job creation for local communities, the preservation of their way of life, culture and heritage and the promotion of the three dimensions of sustainable development, while simultaneously inviting Member States to take measures to protect the environment and the sociocultural heritage of a destination;

14. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations and the specialized agencies to support the coordination of regional and/or international sustainable tourism development frameworks, as appropriate, in order to assist countries in promoting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environmental protection;

15. *Underlines* the importance of ensuring responsible resource management, addressing the negative impacts of unbalanced tourism, respecting environmental and sociocultural capacities and conducting an environmental impact assessment that does not present additional cost commitments, in accordance with national legislation, for the development of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism opportunities;

16. *Stresses* the need to ensure the integration of sustainable consumption and production patterns in the tourism sector, including through identifying and adopting tourism-planning approaches aimed at improving efficiency in the use of resources;

17. *Encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to make use of the "Tourism for SDGs platform" launched during the 2018 high-level political forum on sustainable development as a partnership tool aimed at advancing the sustainable development of tourism and its contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals;

18. *Also encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to join the Sustainable Tourism Programme of the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns[20] in order to foster the integration of sustainable consumption and production patterns in the tourism sector;

19. *Underlines* the need to foster resilient tourism development to deal with shocks, taking into account the vulnerability of the tourism sector to emergencies, and invites Member States to develop national strategies for rehabilitation aftershocks, including through private-public cooperation and the diversification of activities and products;

20. *Stresses* that the cultures, traditions and knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities, in all their aspects, are to be fully considered, respected and promoted, as appropriate, in policy development for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and underlines the importance of promoting their participation in decisions that affect them and the need to ensure their free, prior and informed consent in the integration of their knowledge, heritage and values into sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, as appropriate;

21. *Emphasizes* the need for effective measures, in the context of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, to ensure the full empowerment of women, including the equal participation of women and men at all levels and in decision-making processes in all areas;

22. *Also emphasizes* the need for effective measures, in the context of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, to help to ensure the equal participation of young people and women, persons with disabilities and older persons at all levels and in decision-making processes in all areas and to promote the effective

[20] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

economic empowerment, including through international cooperation, of women, young people, persons with disabilities and older persons in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, mainly through decent job and income creation;

23. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations system, in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as an instrument that can contribute to achieving those Goals, in particular when it comes to eradicating extreme poverty and ensuring environmental sustainability, and to support the efforts and policies of developing countries in this field;

24. *Invites* Member States and relevant stakeholders to welcome the many opportunities that the new digital transformation of the tourism sector offers and calls upon them, therefore, to foster smart solutions that integrate knowledge from traditional and non-traditional data sources, supporting related capacity-building activities and ensuring the long-term participation of local communities and the overall strengthening of a more holistic, evidence-driven approach to sustainable development in tourism;

25. *Calls upon* the entities of United Nations system to provide support to tourism stakeholders at all levels in their efforts to acquire and utilize the expertise needed for the digital transformation of their businesses and destinations and to support efforts to enhance the available data with georeferenced, spatial components for the generation of more precise and timely information for tourism;

26. *Recognizes* the importance of investment in education and training, focusing on issues specific to tourism, in order to enhance competitiveness, and encourages regional and international institutions to provide adequate support to programmes and projects related to sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, taking into account the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits of such activities;

27. *Invites* relevant specialized agencies, in particular the World Tourism Organization, United Nations bodies and other organizations, to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, and to assist, as appropriate, in strengthening legislative or policy frameworks for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, including those for environmental protection and the conservation of natural and cultural heritage;

28. *Invites* relevant specialized agencies, United Nations bodies, other organizations and multilateral financial institutions to provide technical assistance to Governments, upon request and as appropriate, in identifying needs as well as opportunities to improve the contribution of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, to poverty eradication, including through securing wider community benefits from sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, as a viable and sustainable economic development option;

29. *Encourages* the public and private sectors, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to provide, upon request, assistance for capacity-building, the development of specific guidelines and awareness-raising materials and training for people involved in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, such as language training and training in specific skills in tourism services, as well as to develop or strengthen partnerships, especially in protected areas;

30. *Encourages* the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations, within existing mandates and resources, the public and private sectors and other relevant stakeholders to develop awareness-raising materials that target local development, the empowerment of women, indigenous peoples, local communities, youth entrepreneurship and innovation, and the protection of traditional

knowledge and traditional cultural expressions in order to ensure the sustainability of the tourism sector and its contribution to the country's development objectives;

31. *Invites* relevant stakeholders to provide, upon request and as appropriate, technical assistance to assist in building the capacity, including for marketing and product positioning, of local communities, cooperatives and micro, small and medium-sized businesses involved in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities;

32. *Recognizes* the role of North-South cooperation in promoting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a means to achieve economic growth, reduce inequalities and improve living standards in developing countries, and also recognizes that South-South and triangular cooperation, as complements to North-South cooperation, have the potential to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism;

33. *Invites* Governments and other stakeholders to consider joining the framework of the International Network of Sustainable Tourism Observatories of the World Tourism Organization as a way to promote socioeconomic and environmentally sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and to support better informed sustainable tourism policies around the world, mainly through the identification and dissemination of best practices and enhanced awareness of and capacity-building for sustainability among tourism stakeholders;

34. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations and the tourism sector to improve efforts to regularly measure, as appropriate, the role of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in order to allow more evidence-based decision-making, replicability and scalability at the local and national levels, especially in the context of other economic activities, and with the use of innovative technologies to address sociocultural and environmental impacts, and stresses the need for capacity-building for developing countries in this regard;

35. *Encourages* improved marketing and communication on sustainable practices for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in order to enhance decision-making by consumers regarding their needs, in line with the objective of meeting the Sustainable Development Goals, and to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session, in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization and other relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on ways and means to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a tool for fighting poverty and promoting sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, taking into account relevant reports prepared by the World Tourism Organization in this field, unless otherwise agreed.